

# *Holy Family N.S. Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo*



***Principal: Bernadette Ryan***

e-mail: [principalhollyfamilyns@gmail.com](mailto:principalhollyfamilyns@gmail.com)

Telephone: **071 91 86291**

Dear parents/guardians

Thank you all for your support and cooperation since we have returned to school. It is a very different school year than any of us could have imagined. Well done to all the children for settling back to work so well and learning the new routines so quickly.

We have had some changes to our **staff** this year. Ms Ciara Burke decided to return to teach in Dublin. We all miss her and wish her well in her new job. Ms M Henry has joined us from Foxford NS. We also welcome Mc B Tuohy and Ms N Higgins to our school. The Department have also allocated 2 extra teachers to our school – Ms Dooney and Mr Cassidy. Both teachers are part of a panel of substitute teachers to cover for teacher sick leave during the year.

Damian Moran has joined us as a caretaker and Sabrina as a new cleaner.

This year Ms C Brennan is working as Home School Liaison Teacher. She is shared between our school and Corran College.

The staff have made changes to the daily routines to encourage social distancing between children.

- Teachers are in their classes from 910 to meet children.  
Junior Infants are met by Ms Gordon, Ms McDonagh and Ann.
- We have split our yard breaks – with half the school out at play at one time. This means the teachers and SNA's are supervising the yard more often and getting less breaks.
- We have installed sanitisers throughout the school and the teachers are encouraging hand washing and hand sanitisation during the day.
- Teachers are wearing masks/visors. We have also installed screens on all staff tables.
- The children have no homework in September. This is to help them to get back in to the routines of school. It also reduces materials being sent between home and school. Homework isn't gone forever – so enjoy the short break!!
- It was great to see everyone prepared for school in their school uniform.

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If you have old uniforms you no longer need we would encourage parents to leave them to Vincent's Shop in Tubbercurry. This year we won't be able to keep old uniforms on site.

In our school we always had the routine that **meetings are by appointment only**.

This rule still applies. **This year all schools are for staff and children only**. This is to help us limit the number of Corona Virus cases in our schools. We do miss talking to people on the yard but we all need to work together to keep the school open and the staff and children safe. This virus can be invisible. Any one of us could have it and have no symptoms. Unfortunately if the virus manages to get in to our school, we may be advised to send classes home or even close the school. None of us want that so we must all work together to limit the number of people in the school site.

**Book Money**: Thanks to everyone who has paid for their school books. This year we also have a card machine and parents can pay over the phone. This again is to reduce the number of people in the school building. Please contact Eilise if you have any questions. Cash can be sent in to the school, in an envelope, with your child.

**Contact Tracing Book**: All adults must wear a visor or mask when in the school grounds. Anyone who is in the school must sign the **contact tracing book** at the school office.

## **The HSE has the following guidelines for parents:**

If your child has any of these symptoms they should stay at home from school

- A temperature
- A cough, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste
- Living with someone who is unwell and may have Corona Virus
- Been a close contact of someone with Corona Virus

If children are sick in school they will be brought to the isolation room. Their parents will be called and the child will go home. We recommend ringing your GP for advice if your child has been sent home.

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**Sick notes:** We would like to limit materials sent between home and school.

**If your child is sick we are asking that parents ring the school office to say the child is sick. Parents can also email the office [secretaryholyfamilyns@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryholyfamilyns@gmail.com)**

## **Google Classroom:**

During lockdown all our teachers posted work for children to do at home on Google Classroom. We are starting to set this up again – in case we need to post homework online again.

To access Google Classroom we need a gmail address for you. If we don't have the email address for you please send you gmail address to the school.

This year we hope to send notes through the gmail addresses – as it is safer. Letters will also be on our website [www.holyfamilytubbercurry.ie](http://www.holyfamilytubbercurry.ie)

Lastly I want to thank you all again for your support and kind words as we start the year. Let's keep working together to make our school as safe as possible.